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|   |                         |    | Application Number       | <b>10/734,021</b>       |                   |
|   |                         |    | Filing Date              | <b>10 December 2003</b> |                   |
|   |                         |    | First Named Inventor     | <b>Hidetoshi Aoki</b>   |                   |
|   |                         |    | Art Unit                 | <b>1796</b>             |                   |
| Examiner Name   | <b>Peter D. Mulcahy</b> |    |                          |                         |                   |
| Sheet   | <b>1</b>                | of | <b>2</b>                 | Attorney Docket Number  | <b>Hokushin-6</b> |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |  |                                |   |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials' | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                       |                          | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                                |   |   |                |
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|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |                |
|                          |                          | JP63-088587 (& PAJ English Abstract)  | 04-19-1988                     | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co Ltd.                            |   |                |
|                          |                          | JP10-031402 (& PAJ English Abstract)  | 02-03-1998                     | Toyo Tire & Rubber Co Ltd.                            |   |                |
|                          |                          | JP07-113040 (& PAJ English Abstract)  | 05-02-1995                     | Fukoku Co Ltd.  |   |                |
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|  |                          | Official Communication for corresponding Japanese Patent Publication No.: 2002-302330.  |                |
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